REMARKS

Applicant submits the following claim amendments prior to examination on the merits for consideration by the Examiner. The amendments cancel the existing claims 1-9, and add new claims 10-20. New claims 10-20 recite the subject matter of (now cancelled) claims 1-9, but are re-written to comport with U.S. practice. No new matter has been added.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner enter the amendments prior to examination on the merits, and issue a notice of allowance for all pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,

COATS & BENNETT P.L.L.C.

Edward H. Green, III Registration No. 42,604

Telephone: (919) 854-1844